

# OrdnanceReports

News updates from around the world



June 13, 2003



*This publication is produced by the U.S. Army Ordnance Corps Communications Coordinator. The purpose of this publication is to provide Command Information materiel concerning world events and the U.S. military's role in those events. Ordnance specific events will be covered if appropriate. Direct your correspondence to Ed Starnes at 410-278-2415 (DSN 298-2415), or email [edward.starnes@ocs.apg.army.mil](mailto:edward.starnes@ocs.apg.army.mil).*

## Purported Saddam letter threatens new attacks

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (Reuters) - Saddam Hussein has called on foreigners to leave Iraq and threatened attacks in countries with troops occupying his former state, according to a letter he purportedly faxed to an Arabic newspaper Friday.

"We warn all foreign citizens and all those who came with cowardly

occupier ... of the need to leave Iraq before the 17th of next June," said the three-page letter, sent to the London-based al-Quds al-Arabi and made available to Reuters.

Abdel-Bari Atwan, the editor of the paper, said the author may have intended to say July 17, a day which would mark the anniversary of Saddam's Baath party coming to power in 1968.

"If this period ends without them leaving, it will be our right for us to take our defense to their countries. As they kill the sons of Iraq, we will respond," said the letter signed "Saddam Hussein."

Following a U.S. and British invasion that toppled Saddam on April 9, other countries have sent troops to help with the task of restoring security in Iraq.

The "Saddam" letter singled out Poland and Denmark as nations with troops in Iraq.

Atwan said the handwriting and signature were the same as four other letters attributed to the ousted Iraqi leader and faxed to the paper in the weeks after the war.

Atwan said he had no indication where the letter, dated June 12 and received Friday, was faxed from. His paper would publish it Saturday, he added.

The fate of Saddam and his family are unknown. The United States launched its war in Iraq on March 20 with an air strike directed at a meeting believed to be attended by Saddam.

A second air strike in a fashionable section of Baghdad also targeted Saddam but there was no indication he was killed in either attack.

"I would obviously much prefer that we had clear evidence that Saddam is dead or that we had him alive in our custody," Paul Bremer, the U.S. civil administrator in postwar Iraq, told reporters in Washington Thursday.

"I think it does make a difference because it allows the Baathists to go around in the bazaars and in the villages, which they're doing,



*U.S. Army soldiers from Task Force Ironhorse the main street of the Iraqi town of Duluiyah during Operation Peninsula Strike June 13, 2003. U.S. forces killed 27 Iraqis who attacked a tank patrol north of Baghdad on June 13, the U.S. military said. The clash is part of a major operation launched by the U.S. on Monday to crack down on Iraqi guerrillas north of Baghdad.*

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## **"Quote by the"** **Secretary of Defense**



**“Today, we see respect for states’ sovereignty eroding. We see it, in my view, in the International Criminal Court’s claim of authority to try the citizens of countries that have not consented to ICC jurisdiction.**

**”We see it in the new Belgian law purporting to give Belgian courts ‘universal jurisdiction’ over alleged war crimes anywhere in the world. Already charges have been filed against General Tommy Franks under this dangerous law, which has turned Belgium’s legal system into a platform for, what I believe will prove to be, divisive, politicized lawsuits against officials of her NATO allies. There are, I might add, suits also pending against President George Herbert Walker Bush, Vice President Cheney, Secretary of State Colin Powell, and others. I suppose if George Marshall were alive there would be suits against George Marshall in the Belgian courts.**

**”These trends are dangerous, not simply because they threaten to disrupt cooperation between friends and allies, but also because the erosion of respect for states sovereignty absolves states of their responsibilities to deal with problems within their borders.**

**”Sovereignty is a two-way street — it implies rights and also responsibilities, it seems to me. Those who would strip away the sovereign rights of nations have to recognize that in the process they may also strip away states of sovereign responsibilities.”**

*— From remarks at the [Marshall Center](#), Garmisch, Germany, June 11, 2003*

### **Purported Saddam letter threatens new attacks continued**

saying, ‘Saddam is alive, and he’s going to come back, and we’re going to come back.’”

The U.S. military has launched two big operations west and north of

Baghdad this week to try to root out what it says are die-hard Saddam loyalists behind a recent spate of attacks on U.S. troops in mainly Sunni Muslim areas.

# About 100 Iraqi fighters die in clashes

by Borzou Daragahi

BALAD, Iraq (AP) - U.S. forces killed 27 Iraqi fighters in a ground and air pursuit Friday after the Iraqis attacked an American tank patrol north of Baghdad, bringing the opposition death toll in four days of skirmishes to about 100, according to the military.

Friday's clash came as American forces pressed forward with a massive sweep to crush resistance by supporters of Saddam Hussein's ousted regime north of Baghdad.

Air Force Gen. Richard B. Myers said U.S. forces were sifting through intelligence that "foreign fighters" may have been at an alleged terrorist training camp northwest of Baghdad bombed early Thursday by U.S. forces.

In Washington on Friday, a senior Pentagon official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said about 70 opposition fighters were killed in Thursday's attack - most apparently non-Iraqis from other countries in the region.

If confirmed, it would be the first indication since the war's end that non-Iraqi volunteers were still in the country. Before the war in March, Iraq claimed that thousands of Arab fighters poured into the country to resist the invasion. They provided some of the stiffest resistance once American forces entered Baghdad.

Separately, U.S. troops acting on an intelligence tip arrested 74 people described as sympathizers of the al-Qaida terrorist network in a raid Thursday near the northern city of Kirkuk, said the U.S. Central Command.

U.S. Central Command said an "organized group" ambushed the tanks with rocket propelled grenades near Balad, about 35 miles from the capital on the main highway north. The statement did not mention U.S. casualties.

The patrol returned fire and killed four of the assailants in the initial gunbattle, the military said.

When the rest of the attackers fled, Apache helicopters joined the chase along with tanks and Bradley fighting vehicles, killing 23 more assailants. The statement did not say whether any escaped.

Witnesses said the attackers rushed the tank column from a thicket of reeds near sunflower fields on an isolated rural road a few miles south of Balad.

Bassem Abdul Rahim, a 22-year-old farmer, said he was hiding with his family in his house about 150 yards away when he heard the shooting and saw flashes of gunfire. After the clash, the Americans took away the bodies, he said.



*U.S. soldiers check an Iraqi man at the checkpoint near the presidential palace in Baghdad, on Thursday, June 12, 2003. (AP Photo/ Mikhail Metzel)*

The tank patrol was from the Army's 4th Infantry Division, based in Fort Hood, Texas.

The attack was the latest in increasing resistance to the American-led occupation of Iraq since the war was declared over on May 1. Since then, about 40 Americans have died in ambushes and sniper fire, mainly in central Iraq where Saddam drew most of his support.

Six U.S. soldiers have been wounded in the past 24 hours in fighting throughout Iraq, Capt. John Morgan, spokesman in Baghdad for the Army's V Corps, said Friday.

U.S. military officials in Baghdad declined to give details of Friday's sweep north of Baghdad, saying the operations were ongoing and more fighting was possible.

On Thursday, American warplanes bombed an alleged training facility 90 miles northwest of Baghdad, looking for members of the now-banned Baath Party, Iraqi paramilitary groups and "other subversive elements," said a military statement.

A fierce ground battle followed the air strike in which the Iraqi forces suffered heavy casualties. One American soldier was wounded, said the U.S. Central Command.

"It was a tough fight. They were well-trained or well-equipped, and clearly well prepared for this, for the fight they had," Myers said at a Washington briefing Thursday.

Also on Thursday, Iraqi fighters shot down an Apache helicopter gunship - the first American aircraft downed by ground fire since Saddam's ouster two months ago - and a U.S. F-16 fighter-bomber



# Protesters scale wall at Yongsan

by Jeremy Kirk, Stars and Stripes

[www.voiceofpeople.org](http://www.voiceofpeople.org)

YONGSAN GARRISON, South Korea — Members of an outlawed protest group scaled a wall Thursday, leaping onto the U.S. military's headquarters in Korea, Army officials said.

All 14 resisted but were arrested using plastic and regular handcuffs, said Lt. Col. Steve Boylan, 8th Army public affairs officer. No injuries were reported and the base was not damaged.

The group was turned over to Korean National Police officers after about 30 minutes, Boylan said.

"We were not sure where they were trying to go," Boylan said. "We support the right to protest and freedom of speech, but we do not condone one illegally entering the facility."

The group videotaped its assault on the base and posted it on

## About 100 Iraqi fighters die in clashes continued

crashed Thursday. The crews of the aircraft were rescued unharmed.

Earlier this week, U.S. forces launched a sweep through towns of the so-called "Sunni triangle" north of and west of Baghdad in central Iraq and marked at its top by Tikrit, Saddam's hometown.

Coalition forces did not give a total of Iraqi casualties in the operation, but said about 400 Iraqis have been arrested and many were being interrogated. No Americans have been killed, said Sgt. Forest Geary of the U.S. Army's 3rd Infantry Division.

Hundreds of U.S. troops moved in hard and fast through the area, centered on the town of Duluiyah 30 miles north of Baghdad. With helicopters whirring overhead and tanks offering cover, they kicked down doors and pulled out residents, looking for snipers who had harassed them for weeks from the shelter of thick woods.

"During the day, the people are calm and friendly, but at night they've been ambushing us," said Geary.

The aggressive raids angered people in Duluiyah, who complained of needlessly heavy-handed tactics by the Americans. A man complained his 6-year-old son was handcuffed, and a family claimed that a man died of a heart attack because U.S. forces refused to let them give him his medicine.

As part of the effort to root out militants, the American civilian administrator of Iraq, L. Paul Bremer, on Thursday banned gatherings, pronouncements or publications that incite disorder or violence against the U.S.-led occupation forces, or the return of the Baath Party.

U.S. military officials also said two Iraqi prisoners were shot trying to escape from a camp Thursday. One of the men later died of his wounds and the other was recaptured, U.S. Central Command said.

The United States is holding more than 2,000 Iraqis, including more than half of the 55 Iraqi most-wanted by Washington.

The video says the group was part of the Korean Federation of University Student Councils, known in Korean as Hanchongryun.

The group sympathizes with North Korea, advocating closer ties between the two Koreas. But membership violates South Korea's National Security Law.

On the video, protesters are seen easily climbing a small concrete wall tipped with metal spikes that runs in back of the Korean War Museum, adjacent to the four-way stop by the Townhouse eatery. Uniformed U.S. soldiers are seen chasing them, then frisking them for weapons.

One protester shouts loudly in reference to the armored vehicle accident that killed two 13-year-old Korean teenagers on June 13, 2002. That day, a 2nd Infantry Division vehicle crushed Shim Mi-son and Shin Hyo-soon on Highway 56, about 15 miles north of Seoul.

"Make Hyo-soon and Mi-son live!" he shouts while an American soldier holds him and a police car siren blares, blocking his shouts. "American soldiers apologize to the Korean government!"

The deaths led to mass protests calling for withdrawal of the 37,000 U.S. servicemembers from South Korea.

Five of the protesters were taken to Chongryangri Police Station, a police office said, adding that the incident is under investigation. Other demonstrators were taken to Songpa and Chungnang police stations, said a police officer at Yongsan Police Station.



*A US trooper accompanied by Iraqi police in their newly reacquired AK-47s and bullet-proof vests, guard confiscated chemicals and equipment which are being sold at a public market in Baghdad, Iraq on Thursday, June 12, 2003. Looters still abound around the capital as the US forces try to restore order following the fall of Saddam Hussein.(AP Photo/Samir Mezban)*

# Injured soldiers honored on Army birthday

by Alfonso Lopez

WASHINGTON (Army News Service, June 11, 2003) - Injured soldiers from Operation Iraqi Freedom shared an Army birthday cake with Acting Secretary of the Army Les Brownlee June 11.

A gathering of recovering troops convened at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center for a special birthday party, this being the Army's 228th year. This ceremony was held for those who would otherwise be unable to attend festivities elsewhere.

Brownlee greeted each of the soldiers, after which all joined in singing happy birthday to the Army. Both the youngest and oldest soldier there joined Brownlee to cut the cake.

Cpl. Allan Doyle was in high spirits. He is one of two servicemen chosen for a documentary on soldiers in recovery.

Just before moving on to patients in other wards, an awards ceremony was held. Cpl. Ricky A. Nelson and Pfc. Daniel Bazavilvazo, both from Fort Stewart, Ga., received Purple Hearts presented to them by Brownlee.

Nelson suffered a leg injury in May. He said his reception upon return was "a lot better than I expected it to be." Of the time spent in Iraq, Nelson said that "taking the airport, that was probably the heaviest firefight we saw."

Nelson's family has supported him from the beginning, he said.

"My wife came down for a couple of weeks" to Walter Reed, he said. He added that he expects to be able to walk eventually.

For Bazavilvazo, the award was as much an honor as it was



*Walter Reed Army Medical Center patients, youngest on the left Spc. Luke Halderman, and oldest on the right, Staff Sgt. Flourice Gray, cut the Army birthday cake with Acting Secretary of the Army Les Brownlee June 11 at the hospital dining facility. (photo by SGT Reeba Critser)*

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*Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack L. Tilley, joined by Georgia Congressman Jack Kingston and Rhode Island Sen. Jack Reed, leads a formation of more than 1,000 soldiers and Army supporters to celebrate the Army's 228th birthday. (photo by Adam Skoczylas.)*



# Operation Tribute to Freedom launched to honor troops

by Casie Vinall, Special to American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, June 12, 2003 – The military's highest ranking officer kicked off Operation Tribute to Freedom here today during a Pentagon press briefing.

The tribute is a way for the community to show their appreciation to the troops, according to Air Force Gen. Richard B. Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

"While operations in Afghanistan and Iraq continue," Myers said, "more than 100,000 of our soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen have returned from overseas. As they do, many communities from around our country are paying tribute to the efforts and sacrifices these brave men and women have made in our global war on terrorism."

Myers said Pentagon officials have been inundated with requests from communities, companies and individuals asking how they can show their support and say thanks "for the great job our young people have done and continue to do."

"We have established Operation Tribute to Freedom as a way for the military to support as many community efforts as possible," Myers said. The initiative began on Memorial Day, he noted, "which is a natural starting point to reflect on the sacrifices of our military members and their families."

This Saturday, he added, Major League Baseball teams will fly flags that were flown over the Pentagon as part of the tribute to the troops.

Many Americans throughout the nation have already paid tribute to the nation's troops in many ways, Myers said. "Some have placed yellow ribbons on mailboxes, hosted a parade or, like one family in St. Jacob, Ill., they have taken over their neighbor's lawn care until he returns from Iraq," he said. "I think they bring new meaning to the term 'neighborly,'" the general said.

Last weekend, Myers said he was amazed at the number of flags and yellow ribbons he saw displayed while he was traveling through small towns about 40 miles west of the Pentagon. These displays, he said, are all part of the national effort to recognize the sacrifices that our armed forces make

"The official Tribute to Freedom events scheduled for this summer and beyond will continue that support for our fighting forces," Myers concluded.

Army Brig. Gen. Andy Aadland, executive director of the Pentagon's Tribute to Freedom committee, said the effort "is all about the troops.

This is our opportunity to recognize them, to pay tribute to their efforts, and it's an honor for me to be heading up a joint team that's going to lead this effort."



Aadland said the tribute has three major goals: thank the servicemen and women, strengthen the tie between citizens and the military and recognize that the war on terror is not over yet. Many events are scheduled around the country throughout the summer and until Veterans Day.

Eleven military bands will perform in many different states this weekend, for example. The Fourth of July will be a major event in this Tribute to Freedom initiative. Hundreds of service members will be returning to their hometowns to participate in local events.

The Pentagon initiative also includes a way for citizens to join the Operation Tribute to Freedom team. [www.DefendAmerica.mil](http://www.DefendAmerica.mil), the Defense Dept.'s official Web site on the war on terrorism, features Operation Tribute to Freedom. Here, people can "Join the Team" and receive a certificate signed by Myers acknowledging their support.

Children can color a patriotic cartoon. A press kit, posters, logos and a screensaver are also available for downloading. The site also features a map listing community events throughout the states. Communities or organizations may also submit information about their upcoming events.

Both Myers and Aadland encouraged all to get involved. Aadland said citizens can "let us know through our Web site, [DefendAmerica.mil](http://DefendAmerica.mil), about what particular small thing they've done to recognize our troops and to get on and join in the excitement of this great campaign."

Myers expressed his appreciation to those that have already done their part to show their support for the troops.

*(Casie Vinall is an intern working in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs.)*

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# Major League Baseball, Soccer to salute troops on Flag Day

by Kathleen T. Rhem, American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, June 12, 2003 – Spectators at 13 Major League Baseball games and one Major League Soccer game will have the opportunity to honor America's military forces June 14, Flag Day.

Thirteen baseball stadiums will display American flags that have flown over the Pentagon, defense officials said. Baseball officials at each game will announce the significance of the flags before the national anthem is sung.

Air Force Gen. Richard B. Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, will throw out the ceremonial first pitch at the New York Yankees vs. St. Louis Cardinals game at Yankee Stadium that day as well.

"This is a great opportunity for Americans enjoying America's pastime to honor their military forces on Flag Day," said Brent Krueger, DoD's director of community relations and public liaison.

The D.C. United soccer team will host "Armed Forces Appreciation Day" June 14, which is also the Army's 228th birthday. Pre-game festivities and events throughout the day will honor military members and their families, and military members and families will get tickets to that day's game in Washington's RFK Stadium at less than half price.

"D.C. United is proud to salute all of our area service men and

## Injured soldiers honored on Army birthday continued

unexpected. He was on a rooftop at night when he abruptly came under fire. Bazavilvazo spent five months overseas before being wounded and he has been a patient at Walter Reed for about three weeks. From his hospital bed he reflects upon his time with his unit and said he wants to rejoin them. For the time being, he has his family by his side.

"They've been here with me all this time," he said.

Brownlee told the soldiers: "I think the American people understand

women and their families," D.C. United Senior Vice President and General Manager Stephen Zack said in a written release. "We hope this game will be a small distraction for those who have served abroad and their families, and we wish all the troops still in harm's way a safe return home."



**D.C. United to Host 'Armed Forces Appreciation Day' Black-and-Red to Honor American Heroes Saturday Night**

The Naval Color Guard is scheduled to present the colors, while Army Spc. Rosalyn Bennett will sing the national anthem. Following that, the D.C. Air National Guard's 113th Wing will conduct a fly-over. Army Maj. Marvin Jones of the D.C. National Guard will deliver a ceremonial kick-off, and the U.S. Navy's Ceremonial Drill Team will perform at halftime.

The events are part of the Pentagon's Operation Tribute to Freedom, a grass-roots effort to salute the military, rekindle the relationship between

Americans and their service members, and remind the American public that the war on terrorism is ongoing.

The 13 stadiums that will fly American flags from the Pentagon are Oriole Park at Camden Yards, Baltimore; Fenway Park, Boston; U.S. Cellular Field, Chicago; Jacobs Field, Cleveland; Comerica Park, Detroit; Kauffman Stadium, Kansas City, Mo.; the Metrodome, Minneapolis; Yankee Stadium, New York; Network Associates Coliseum, Oakland, Calif.; Safeco Field, Seattle; The Ballpark, Arlington, Texas; Tropicana Field, St. Petersburg, Fla.; and Edison Field, Anaheim, Calif.

more than they ever have how important the military is, because you are the only ones that are standing between them and those ruthless and dangerous terrorists that are out there in the world."

Walter Reed has been responsible for mending about 310 patients to date from Operation Iraqi Freedom. About 130 of these were battle casualties, officials said. They said 93 were treated as inpatients and 37 as outpatients. Injuries have ranged from broken bones and gunshot wounds to minor injuries.



[www.defenselink.mil/specials/homeland/](http://www.defenselink.mil/specials/homeland/)

# NATO has weathered the storm, Robertson says

by Jim Garamone, American Forces Press Service

BRUSSELS, Belgium, June 12, 2003 –After a tough “spring storm,” NATO is “stronger and more united”, NATO Secretary General George Robertson said today.

Robertson spoke following the NATO defense ministerial. He said the alliance is looking ahead to new prospects and challenges.

Robertson said the defense ministers – joined for the first time by the seven new invitees – discussed issues ranging from the Balkans to Iraq.

He said the health of the alliance is not in question. “The substance of our meetings also confirms that the transatlantic alliance has weathered its spring storm and emerged stronger and more united than before,” Robertson said.

In February, disagreements over Iraq, along with Turkey’s request for assistance to defend itself from possible Iraqi attack, seemed to suggest the alliance was on its last legs. “NATO’s decision to assist Turkey, to take over the International Security Assistance Force in Kabul, and to help Poland in Iraq could not have been made by a disunited alliance,” he said. “It was made by a transformed NATO able to meet today’s threats wherever they may come.”

The ministers adopted a new more flexible command structure that

establishes a functional command aimed at NATO transformation. The ministers also discussed the new NATO Reaction Force and moved the date for some early operational capability to fall 2003.

Robertson also said the ministers discussed the progress being made in building new capabilities. Fifteen nations signed on to a memorandum to lease strategic airlift and sealift. The ministers also discussed specific targets for buying new communications assets, precision-guided munitions and air tanking capabilities.

The seven invitees are Latvia, Estonia, Lithuania, Bulgaria, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia.



## Belgian law may force U.S. to stop attending NATO meetings

by Jim Garamone, American Forces Press Service

BRUSSELS, Belgium, June 12, 2003 – Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said today that American officials may stop attending NATO meetings in Belgium because of a law that allows “spurious” suits accusing American leaders of war crimes.

Rumsfeld said the United States will withhold any further funding for a new NATO headquarters building here until the matter is resolved. He spoke during a press conference following the NATO defense ministerial.

The problem stems from Belgium’s Universal Competence Law. Under this law, U.S. Central Command chief Army Gen. Tommy Franks has been charged with war crimes for his actions in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Former President George H.W. Bush, Vice President Dick Cheney, Secretary of State Colin Powell and retired Army Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf, former CENTCOM commander, have also been charged for their roles in the 1991 Persian Gulf War.

The law gives Belgian courts the power to try citizens of any nation for war crimes. “These suits are absurd,” Rumsfeld said. He said Franks went to great lengths to spare civilian lives during the war in Iraq.

“The point is this: By passing that law, Belgium has turned its legal

system into a platform for divisive, politicized lawsuits against officials of its NATO allies,” Rumsfeld said.

The secretary said that it’s not for outsiders to tell the Belgian government what to do. “We respect their sovereignty,” he said. “We respect it even though Belgium appears not to respect the sovereignty of other countries.”

But, he said, Belgium must understand there are consequences. “We will have to seriously consider whether we can allow senior uniformed and civilian officials to come to ... Brussels,” he said.

“Certainly until this matter is resolved we will have to oppose any further spending for construction of the new NATO headquarters in Brussels. Until we know with certainty that Belgium intends to be a hospitable place for NATO to conduct its business.”

This is not the first time that U.S. officials have complained about the law. Joint Chiefs chairman Air Force Gen. Richard Myers commented on the law during a visit to NATO in April.

In March, Secretary of State Colin Powell also complained about the law.

U.S. Embassy officials said there have been discussions in the Belgium government about the law and its unintended consequences.



(Video-teleconference briefing from Baghdad, Iraq, on the coalition's post-war reconstruction and stabilization efforts. Participating was Ambassador Paul Bremer, director of the Coalition Provisional Authority.)

**Staff:** Thank you for joining us today, and a special thanks to Ambassador Paul Bremer, who joins us today from Baghdad. He just finished up a session with the House Armed Services Committee. And he's here today to talk to you about his efforts over the past month since he's arrived in Baghdad and his ongoing efforts into the future.

The ambassador does have a few opening remarks, and then we have 30 minutes for some questions with him.

So, Mr. Ambassador, if you can hear me, go ahead and get started.

**Bremer:** Thank you very much. I hear you fine. Do you hear me?

**Staff:** Yes, we can hear you very well in the briefing room right now.

**Bremer:** Okay, good. Good morning. Let me say a few words before we get started.

I arrived here almost exactly a month ago. And in those last 30 days, I think we have achieved quite a lot, working with the Iraqi people. We've just begun the process of putting a country together that has been ravaged for 30 years by political tyranny and economic under-investment. It's been an enormous privilege, I must say, to have been able to play a part in this great undertaking, and I am determined that we're going to continue the same pace in progress in the months ahead.

The scars in this country run very deep. The thugs and the torture chambers may be gone, but every day we find new evidence of how bad the regime was that we threw out. And repairing the damage of the last regime, material, human and psychological, is a huge task, and it's a task that is only going to succeed if we have a real partnership with the Iraqi people. I am deeply committed to that kind of a partnership.

We've completed, I think it's fair to say, the first phase of the coalition's efforts towards the reconstitution of Iraq. The focus on that phase was getting basic services delivered, utilities turned on, and providing better law and order for everybody. We've got the water and the power on. In many parts of the country it's actually now above levels of what it was before the war. Here in Baghdad, we are producing 20 hours of electricity a day. The gasoline lines that you've read about have almost disappeared, as have the lines for liquid petroleum gas, which is what's used for cooking.

The second phase of reconstitution, which really begins now, has as its main emphasis restoring economic activity. I want to take a moment and talk about the economy because I think this is where

## Briefing on coalition post-war reconstruction and stabilization efforts

our greatest challenge lies, and we must now create jobs for Iraqis. Unemployment today is a tremendous problem. Our best estimate is that before the war, the unemployment was at about 50 percent — five-zero percent — and we think it's substantially higher than that now. So there can be no higher priority now than trying to find a way to create jobs. The chronic underinvestment in infrastructure is going to have to be dealt with, and we're going to have to find ways to get productive activity going, particularly economic activity that creates jobs.

I come back to the question of a partnership with the Iraqi people. We have already begun to work with Iraqi businessmen and women and with officials to find ways to carry out the best economic policy. I had a meeting with a very large group of people in those categories here on Monday night, and I will continue to have consultations with them. I was pleased that the IMF, the World Bank and the UNDP also took part in that meeting on Monday night.

Among the initiatives I've announced was last week I announced a \$70 million community action program to help local communities identify areas where they can very quickly get some activity going. On Tuesday, I announced a \$100 million emergency construction program, the purpose of which is to try to get the construction industry turning over here. We focused on that industry because we get the most leverage, we get the most jobs per dollar in construction.

The \$100 million fund, I might add, is entirely funded from the Iraqi funds that we already have.

We are also trying to encourage trade. Now that the sanctions have been lifted, it's important for Iraq to reenter the world economy. The most obvious example of that is the sale of Iraqi oil, the first sale of Iraqi oil directly into the world market by the Iraqis. The bids went out about five days ago. They have been received yesterday. And I expect they will be opened and announced here in the next 48 hours or so. And that is good news; it means Iraq will have reentered the world petroleum market.

This is all just a beginning. It's quite obvious that we face a major challenge in the economy. It's going to take time and patience, and we are going to be pushing forward as quickly as we can with the restructuring of what is a very sick economy.

I'd be happy to take your questions.

**Staff:** As you ask your question, if you could identify yourself and your news organization for the ambassador, that would help him.

Go ahead, Bob.

## **Briefing on coalition post-war reconstruction and stabilization efforts continued**

**Q: Mr. Ambassador, it's Bob Burns from the Associated Press. I wanted to ask you about the effort to capture or otherwise account for the Iraqis who are on the various most wanted lists, and your assessment of whether most of these people are still in hiding in Iraq or whether they've found have elsewhere.**

**Staff (In Baghdad.):** Guys, if you can hear us, we've lost your audio.

**Staff:** They've lost our audio.

Ambassador, can you hear me?

**Bremer:** Yes, I hear you now. And I heard Mr. Burns announce his name, and — (Audio break.) — dead.

**Staff:** All right. Sounds like our mikes might be — try that mike again, Bob.

**Q: Can you hear me now?**

**Staff:** They're not getting your audio.

**Bremer:** That mike is not working.

**Staff:** What you're saying, they're not picking up.

**Staff: (Off mike.)** — paraphrase the question, and Bob, you tell me if I got it wrong. Bob was asking about the most wanted, and what the progress was on the most wanted and whether or not they had — your assessment was that — if they had melted away or left the country. That was the first part of it.

**Bremer:** We now have more than half of the deck of cards, 55, in custody or have confirmed them as dead. So we're making steady progress. We are picking them up every week, and we will continue to do that. We certainly can't exclude that some of them have gotten out of the country. But I've been encouraged by the number which we've been able to find in the country. And we're certainly going to prosecute that with great vigor.

**Staff:** Why don't you go ahead and state your question, and state it loudly. We can maybe get it from the overhead mikes while we're waiting for a new mike.

**Q: It's Martha Raddatz from ABC News. Ambassador Bremer, can you talk about what sort of organized — let's try with this mike.**

**Ambassador Bremer, Martha Raddatz from ABC News. Can you talk about what sort of organized resistance you're seeing in Iraq, how large that resistance is, and who you believe is behind it.**

**Bremer:** Yes. We are certainly seeing some organized resistance, particularly in the area west of Baghdad and the area north of Baghdad. Now, I want to qualify that by saying we do not see signs of central command and control direction in that resistance at this point. That is to say, these are groups that are organized, but they're small; they may be five or six men conducting isolated attacks against our soldiers.

We are clearly on the lookout to see if this evolves into a more organized, more broadly and centrally directed resistance. But for the time being, it appears that these are small groups, usually Ba'athists or Fedayeen Saddam; in some cases they may be officers of the Republican Guard. And we are going to have to continue to deal with them in a military fashion, as we are now doing.

**Q: They are small groups of five or six men. Are these small groups of five or six men connected in a larger way?**

**Bremer:** Well, that's what I meant by saying we don't yet have evidence of central command and control. They look to be groups who have spontaneously come together and are attacking us. They may be colleagues from the Ba'ath movement, they could be several people from the Fedayeen Saddam or from the Republican Guards. But we do not at the moment see evidence of central command control of these groups. I certainly wouldn't exclude it, but we don't have the evidence yet.

**Q: There's no evidence that Saddam Hussein is directing any of it?**

**Bremer:** No.

**Q: Ambassador, this is Pam Hess with United Press International. Two quick questions. Is Iraq going to be selling its oil under OPEC? And are you — in your efforts for de-Ba'athification, could you fill us in on how that's going, how far down into the Ba'ath Party you expect to get, what sort of that threshold is when someone becomes acceptable; because as you know, 15 million Ba'athists in the country? And are you planning anything like a truth and reconciliation commission for the Iraqi people?**

**Bremer:** Iraq is selling oil now. The question of whether Iraq will remain a member of OPEC is a decision that we will leave to the Iraqi government. And it will be, certainly, a matter that I will discuss with the interim administration when we establish it next month. But this is a matter, I think, that is best left to the Iraqi people.

We — I can't remember, what was your second question? I'm sorry.

**Q: The Ba'athists.**

**Bremer:** We are going to continue the program of de-Ba'athification. I think our estimate of the number of Ba'ath Party members is somewhat more modest than yours, but it's still a substantial number, probably a couple of million. The Ba'athists who were immediately affected by my de-Ba'athification decree, however, represent a much smaller number, somewhere between 50 and 30,000. Don't — the fact that the gap is that wide shows how poor our information really is. We're hoping that as we are able to examine documents captured, we'll have a better sense of what the actual numbers are.

We are continuing that process, and I have announced the establishment of an Iraqi de-Ba'athification council, which will be made up of Iraqis, so that they can carry forward in whatever fashion

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they wish the de-Ba'athification, classifying Ba'athists into various classes, for example, to decide which of them might have to stand criminal trial, which ones might be subject to some civil sanctions, and which ones might be in some fashion reprieved.

I have had preliminary discussions with Iraqi politicians about the question of truth and reconciliation. I think myself this is an area that could productively be explored by the Iraqis. My impression in the conversations I've had so far is that the Iraqis are simply still too — understandably — emotionally delighted to be rid of Saddam and the Ba'athists that they may not yet be ready to undertake that step.

**Q: Ambassador, this is John Hendron with the Los Angeles Times. I've got two questions. There's a larger number of people in the military, something like 500,000 people, Iraqis, who are out of work now. What happens to them? How many will return to work as soldiers there?**

**And secondly, if I could ask, have you seen results from nearly tripling the number of troops in Fallujah by adding the 2nd Brigade of the 3rd Infantry Division there?**

**Bremer:** On the demobilized military, the numbers are a little bit hard to be precise about. The order of battle of the conscript part of the army before the war started was 375,000. Frankly, I think most order of battle numbers are probably not very accurate, so we don't really know what the order of battle was. And that, of course, was the order of battle before the war started. We don't know how many of those people were either killed, injured, or deserted or simply faded away during the war. So, it's a little hard to know.

But, it is the case that a substantial number of military people have been put out of work by demobilizing the army. We are approaching that in two ways.

Number one, we are getting ready to start the process of building a new Iraqi army. I expect that we will be — we have identified training and recruiting sites only this week. We will be starting to clear those sites and clean them up and do the necessary construction. They are using, by the way, former enlisted army men. And so, we'll start building a new Iraqi army here, really, in the next month or so.

Secondly, we believe that these demobilized enlisted men can be very productively used in their private and ministerial security forces to help secure, for example, vital oil installations, electrical power plants, which are today being guarded by American soldiers. If we can hire back and train enlisted men who have some weapon skills already and get them to a high standard, then they can start to take over some of the site security from our soldiers, which then allows our soldiers to more aggressively try to reestablish law and order in Baghdad, for example.

On the question of the deployment of the 2nd Brigade to Fallujah, I think that that project is really only just getting underway. And I think we will see the results in the coming weeks. It's too early to say at this point what the effect will be.

**Q: Ambassador, Bret Baier with Fox News Channel. I have two questions, and I'll ask them separately, if I may.**

**First, you've said that you believe the attacks on U.S. troops are from Ba'ath Party loyalists, Fedayeen Saddam and Iraqi Republican Guards that may have been sticking around. Within the last 24 hours there's been this strike on what CENTCOM calls a terrorist training camp in the West. Any new information about that and possibly that foreign fighters have been involved in attacks on U.S. forces? That's my first question.**

**Bremer:** Well, it's really not appropriate for me to comment on ongoing military operations. We have had in the past some evidence of extremist operations, some of which might be classified as terrorist, in Iraq. We do have clear evidence of some Sunni extremism in the area to the west of Baghdad. Whether that turns out to have been involved in the operation you're talking about is a matter still, I think, to be determined.

And we do have clear evidence of Iranian interference in the affairs of Iraq. Of course, Iran is still — correctly, in my view — identified as the world's leading sponsor of terrorism. There was an Ansar al-Islam terrorist camp, as you will remember, at the beginning of the war, in the North. We are very attentive to the possibility of those people flowing back into Iraq, and we'll obviously take the appropriate steps if we get evidence that that's happening.

**Q: And the second question, sir, is, you've said many times that a top priority of yours is job creation. Today there was a demonstration in front of the gates of your headquarters, of Iraqis demanding jobs. How do you go about creating jobs? How is that going? And what do you tell these people? How do they go about getting them?**

**Bremer:** The job creation problem can be divided into two phases. The first phase, which we are in now, is to try urgently to get jobs going for regular day laborers and workers and demobilized army personnel and just young people.

That's why our emphasis in the fund I announced on Tuesday was on — this \$100 million fund — was on construction, because in construction we will create more jobs per dollar spent than in any other area. And we do have a number of construction projects that were stopped before the war which we can start up relatively quickly and therefore begin to soak up some of this unemployment.

But realistically, job creation is going to require a much deeper economic reform. It's going to require us to create a private sector, which can in turn create jobs. And that is going to be a more difficult and longer-term problem.

So I think it's useful to think of these immediate steps we're taking as bridging steps, bridging us towards a more fundamental economic reform that's going to take longer.

**Q: Mr. Ambassador, Rick Whittle with the Dallas Morning News. I**

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**was wondering if you could tell us what the thresholds for the United States will be of the sort of government that Iraq will be allowed to have, and the sort of economic system they'll be allowed to have. Once the Iraqi people actually form their own government, what role might Islam play in governing the country, and what role might socialism play, given the country's socialist past?**

**Bremer:** Well, questions like the role of Islam are so fundamental to the kind of society that the Iraqis will rebuild that I believe this is a question that needs to be left to the constitutional conference, which will be convening towards the end of July. We are going to try to make it clear — we have made it clear that the constitution that Iraq needs to write must be written by Iraqis; it must take into account Iraqi history, its culture, its social experiences. It will not be a constitution dictated by the coalition or by Americans.

Now, the fact is that Iraq has lived under two different constitutions since 1925, both of which established Islam as the state religion, so there's nothing unusual in that. Both of which guaranteed the free — freedom of worship. Since 1970, when Saddam promulgated his constitution, freedom of worship has been honored more in a breach. But it's possible that they will decide that they want to have a constitution which establishes Islam. We would, of course, be much more comfortable if it also established freedom of religion, and I don't think that will be a problem.

In terms of what kind of economic system they wish to establish, as you point out, the Ba'athist Party was a socialist party. I think it's very hard to imagine any strong support in this country for a return to that economic system, which has left the country really flat on its back, and which does not really provide a model for getting the kind of vibrant private sector which I think most Iraqis now realize is a sine qua non for a stable economy and stable economic growth. So if they choose socialism, that will be their business. My guess is that's not going to happen.

**Staff:** All right, this side of the room. So let's go ahead with you and then up here to Tony, and we'll take a couple on this side.

**Q: Mr. Ambassador, George Edmonson with Cox Newspapers. You've mentioned several times the difficulty of rebuilding the Iraqi economy and the need for patience. How long do you anticipate that the United States would have to maintain a significant presence in Iraq?**

**Bremer:** Well, I get that question a lot. It's a question, among others, my wife tends to ask me about once a week. So, it's always on my mind. My guess is that it's going to be a substantial amount of time, but whether that is measured in months or years will depend on developments. I don't think we should set any artificial deadlines. I think the president has painted it very clearly, as has the secretary, which is we will stay until the job is done and not a day longer, and we won't leave until the job is done.

So, the pacing issue, assuming we establish security throughout the country, which I think we will — the pacing issue will be how fast the Iraqis can write a constitution, get it ratified by the Iraqi people and then call elections. And we hope to convene a

constitutional conference, as I mentioned, within the next four to six weeks. And then, the process of writing the constitution will have to start. And we will see how long it takes.

As for the Iraqis, I have no deadline. If they write it fast, that's fine; I get to go home earlier. If it takes them longer, then we'll just stay here longer. I don't think we should put ourselves in any deadline boxes.

**Staff:** Tony?

**Q: Sir, this is Tony Capaccio with Bloomberg News. Question on troop levels. In order to maintain a viable security situation throughout Iraq, roughly how many troops do you feel will need to be maintained throughout the country? There's about 145,000 U.S. troops right now. Will that roughly be the threshold?**

**Bremer:** You know, I kind of stay away from these games of guessing the right troop strength. I take the position that the troop strength should be determined by the conditions. As conditions improve, we hope we can draw down our forces. If conditions get worse, we're going to not be able to do that.

For the time being, I think we have an adequate force level here. And what I hope is in the months ahead, we see that we are successful in imposing our will on this small group of people who are attacking us and causing us casualties. But we — our troop levels should be condition-driven. They should not be driven by some artificial deadlines about when we want to take troops out, or some number of troops we ought to have here. I think we've got it about right now, and let's just see what the circumstances dictate.

**Q: Mr. Ambassador, Bryan Bender with the Boston Globe. Can you tell us — can you give your assessment of how much the lawlessness, how much these pockets of resistance, if you want to call them that, are affecting or could affect your job in rebuilding the country?**

**And as part of that question, can you talk about the big question mark of Saddam Hussein, how that — his fate being unanswered — how that might affect your job as well, at least in convincing the Iraqis that is a new day and this is a new country?**

**Bremer:** Well, on your second question first, I would obviously much prefer that we had clear evidence that Saddam is dead or that we had him alive in our custody. I think it does make a difference, because it allows the Ba'athists to go around in the bazaars and in the villages, as they are doing, saying, "Saddam is alive, and he's going to come back. And we're going to come back." And the effect of that is to make it more difficult for people who are afraid of the Ba'athists — and that's just about everybody — it makes it more difficult for them to come forward and cooperate with us, because they are afraid the Ba'athists may return.

We have to show through our de-Ba'athification policy, through our military operations against Ba'athists and through other

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measures we take that in fact the Ba'athists are finished; they're not coming back. And we have to obviously continue to leave no stone unturned in the search for Saddam.

**Q: Hi. It's Patty Davis with CNN. There have been reports of significant psychological stress and pressures on U.S. troops, being that they've gone from fighting a war to trying to stabilize the country, and with these ambush attacks almost daily. Do you see that? And what can the U.S. do to help?**

**Bremer:** Well, let me say, first of all, that I am really full of admiration for the young men and women who fought such a successful war. And I'm full of admiration for how well they have made the transition to what they really weren't trained to do, which is to set up civil administration in villages and town all across this country. It's really quite amazing to go see the guys and women in the 82nd Airborne, one of the great, renowned units in this country — they have an area. Their area of operation is south of Baghdad. And they're working on restoring hospitals, trying to fix the sewage system, helping set up generators for the hospitals, restoring amusement parks. These are not things that they normally get trained to do, and they're just doing a magnificent job of it.

We are in a transition phase here where, as we do get stability, we will need to transition a lot of those kinds of things away from the military and to the civilian part of the Coalition Provisional Authority. And we're in the process of now trying to bring forward here to Iraq more civilians to help us — to allow us to relieve the military of these tasks.

So I can't say that the transition from the warfighting to the peacekeeping has produced at least a lot of psychological stress in the men and women I've spoken to. They seem to be doing an excellent job of it. But it is true this is not what they were trained for. And in the long run that has to transition over to civilian leadership.

**Q: Ambassador, I'm Carl Osgood. I write for Executive Intelligence Review. I'd like to ask you about something you just made reference to, which is, you know, the hospital situation, the health care situation in the country. Can you say anything about what the conditions are now in the hospitals? Are they beginning to function? What are you doing to try and improve conditions — the health care conditions, and who do you have working on that?**

**Bremer:** The first thing to remember is that the health care situation in this country probably for the last 20 years has been really substandard — again, an illustration of what happens when you have a government that spends about a third of its gross domestic product on military and underinvests. And in particular, in the south, in the Shi'a parts of the country, Saddam really used health care and — he withheld health care and social services as an element of political repression of the Shi'a. I'll give you an example. I visited the main hospital in Basra yesterday, which is a Shi'a city. And it was quite clear that very little money had been spent there over the last 20 years. They're still operating out of a building that was originally built by the British when they were the colonial power here 80 years ago. They do have 24-hour power now, something they did not have before the war. So they've got better power than

they had before. But by Western standards the situation in a hospital like that is pretty depressing.

Now, we have done several things. First of all, all 12 hospitals in Baghdad are now up and running. I have had the Army Corps of Engineers go out and examine all of their generators because when we had power outages in Baghdad, it obviously was a severe problem for hospitals, who need regular power, particularly in their operating rooms. We have now examined all those generators and either repaired them where they needed repair or set in train replacing them so that the hospitals in Baghdad will be able to have constant power. We have got a nation-wide program going on, researching the hospital situation throughout the country, and the pharmaceutical situation.

You asked who's doing this. We are doing it. We are also getting NGOs to help us and U.N. agencies to help us. It's an enormous undertaking. I think the health care situation is not, however, the crisis that we thought it might be, and we now seem to have enough pharmaceuticals in the country, though they are not being — we are having distributions problems. But it's not the crisis we thought it would be.

**Staff:** We have about four minutes left. I'm going to go right here and then back on this side of the room, back over to Pam. And that might be our last one, depending on how long your questions are.

**Q: Ambassador, this is James Cullum from the Talk Radio News Service. Regarding captured officials on the 55 Most Wanted List, in your estimation, how will they be tried, and how long do you see their detainment without a trial?**

**Bremer:** It's obviously a sensitive question on which I think we need to have responsible Iraqis give us advice. The people of this country suffered tremendously under the regime of these 55 men, and more, and one can, I think, understand that they will want to have some say in what kind of a criminal procedure is established to deal with these people. Whether that will be, as I think many of them hope, an Iraqi tribunal or a mixed Iraqi-international tribunal, these are subjects that, again, once we have an interim administration here, which I expect will happen in the next four to five weeks, it's one of the subjects that we will basically put to them and try to seek their views. And once we have a consensus view on that from the Iraqis, we may be able to start those trials forthwith.

**Q: Ambassador, this is Pam Hess from UPI again. Could you please tell us what the structure of the interim government will be; how those people will be selected and what their powers will and will not be?**

**Bremer:** The interim administration, which is responsive to U.N. Security Council Resolution 1483, will have, at least initially, two bodies in it. The first body will be a political council; the second, a constitutional conference. The political council will be made up of some 25 to 30 Iraqis from all walks of life and from the various

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strands of Iraqi society: men, women, Shi'a, Sunnis, Kurds and Arabs, tribal leaders, Christians, Turkomen, urban people, et cetera, professionals.

That group is the subject of some rather intense consultations that we're undergoing right now with people from all of those walks of life. And I would expect that we will arrive at a list of agreed candidates, as I said, in the next four to six weeks.

The political council's responsibilities will be quite significant right from the start, and they will fall in two areas. First of all, the political council will be encouraged to nominate immediately men and women to become interim ministers in the 20 or so ministries that make up the Iraqi government. The interim ministers will in turn have substantial responsibilities in how those ministries are run.

The second area that the political council will be active in will be in setting up commissions to study longer-range questions that have a major impact on Iraqi society; for example, what to do about educational reform. Ba'athism is very much a part of the curriculum throughout the school system and university system here. How do we get rid of it? What do we do to the textbooks? They will want to look at issues like how to take a census, something that must happen,

obviously, before there can be elections next year. And there must be another half-dozen commissions you can think of.

The second body will be a constitutional conference, which will be a broader and more broadly selected group, probably several hundred, who will convene, we hope, also in the next six to seven weeks, and will have the task of drafting the new Iraqi constitution. It will have to organize itself. It will have to select a drafting committee and maybe some subcommittees, and then will undergo a very intense, we hope, intense political dialogue with the people of Iraq on fundamental issues: like whether this will be a presidential system, whether it will be federal; and what federalism will mean; what will be the role of religion. All of these questions will have to be dealt with by that constitutional conference.

**Staff:** Ambassador, we have come to the end of our time. And I'd like to thank you for taking the time today. I know you spent some time earlier today talking to the House Armed Services Committee members. And we really appreciate the opportunity to have a dialogue with you and help our understanding back here. And we hope that we can do this again soon with you.

**Bremer:** Thank you. Nice to see you all.



**GUARD** — A soldier from 63rd Military Police Company, 18th Airborne Corps, attached to the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), guards an intersection during a June 12 demonstration in Mosul, Iraq, that turned violent. U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Ronald Mitchell.



# Short conflict, less ammo kept war cost down

by Laurence McQuillan, USA Today

WASHINGTON — A short conflict that used fewer missiles, sparked fewer oil field fires and created fewer refugees than anticipated produced a lower-than-expected financial cost for the major combat in Iraq.

That means President Bush won't have to go back to Congress for additional funding this year, a step that could have revived the debate over the war.

A detailed account of expenses won't be complete for months, but senior administration officials say the cost of deployment and combat will be just less than the \$62.6 billion Congress approved in March as emergency funding for Operation Iraqi Freedom. It is the first time officials have offered a tally.

The price for the combat phase is about \$220 per American. The Persian Gulf War in 1991 cost \$76 billion in today's dollars. Though other countries financed 80% of that war, the United States is bearing most of the cost of this conflict.

"The business plan for the war was roughly as successful as the military plan," Mitch Daniels said in an interview last week before he left the administration after two years as budget director. "The projections look pretty darn good."

Those projections offer a window into the administration's prewar expectations. What kept war costs down:

\*The administration budgeted for the military buildup and 30 days of heavy fighting and bombing, followed by several months of skirmishes. Officials say the war lasted 26 days, from the launching of the first missiles March 19 until mid-April, when Iraqi political and

religious leaders met with U.S. officials on forming an interim government.

\*Fewer expensive high-tech weapons were fired. For example, as many as 200 anti-missile Patriots were expected to be fired, but less than 25 were used. Each Patriot costs \$2.3 million.

\*Planners had earmarked \$489 million to put out as many as 500 oil well fires that Iraqis might ignite. Fewer than 10 wells were set ablaze, which cost about \$5 million to extinguish the fires and repair damage.

\*Planners budgeted \$593 million to care for as many as 2 million refugees, a problem avoided when urban combat was less extensive than expected. The refugee count was less than 100,000. In addition, \$200 million was earmarked for emergency food supplies for Iraqis, but no major shortages occurred.

\*Troops are staying longer. The plan called for shipping more than 400,000 troops and equipment to the region and returning most of them within six months, at a round-trip cost of \$30 billion. Now, at least 160,000 troops are staying in Iraq indefinitely, which means the cost of bringing them home can be deferred.

Daniels and other officials have refused to estimate the costs of the postwar violence, peacekeeping and reconstruction in Iraq, and that has prompted complaints from Capitol Hill.

"This stretches the tolerance and good humor of members," said Senate Foreign Relations Chairman Richard Lugar, R-Ind.

The Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments, an independent policy research institute, said the five-year cost for U.S. peacekeeping could exceed \$100 billion. Estimates for rebuilding Iraq run as high as \$30 billion a year for the next decade.



South Korean Army soldiers stand by a signboard showing the distance to the North Korean capital Pyongyang and South Korean capital Seoul from the Imjingak Railway Station in Paju, north of Seoul, near the demilitarized zone (DMZ) of Panmunjom, South Korea, Friday, June 13, 2003. The two Koreas Saturday will hold a joint ceremony at the border to connect cross-border railways, part of reconciliation efforts between the divided countries.(AP Photo/Ahn Young-joon)



**Saddam Hussein's yacht sinks:** Corporal Michael Sturgeon looks at the "Al Mansur," the luxury yacht of former Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, which keeled over and sank in the Shaat al Arab waterway in Basra, Iraq, on June 12. The vessel, which is nearly 400 foot long, was heavily bombed by coalition forces during the war. (AP/Angus Beaton/Ministry of Defence UK Media Operations, ho)



British troops patrol the streets of Basra, 600 km (373 miles) southeast of Baghdad, Iraq, Thursday June 12, 2003. A sizable number of British soldiers maintain their presence in Basra as part of the coalition forces that ousted Saddam Hussein from decades of harsh rule. (AP Photo/Nabil Al-Jurani)



Hamas militants march during the funeral processions of their colleague Yasser Taha in the Bureij refugee camp southern Gaza Strip, Friday, June 13, 2003. Taha was killed with his wife Fatima, 25, and his daughter Asnam, 2, when Israeli helicopters on Thursday fired missiles on his car in Gaza city killing seven people. Headbands read "No God but God and Mohammed is the Prophet of Allah, Izz el-Deen al-Qassam brigades." (AP Photo/Adel Hana)



U.S. soldier sits at the ready with a gun in his APC as he patrols the streets in Baghdad, on Thursday, June 12, 2003. (AP Photo/Mikhail Metzel)

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